

Texas Department of State Health Services

TxEVER Death Registration





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VIP STATUTES & RULES



10 days to register w/ State

A Certificate of Death (VS-112) must be filed within 10 days of death in Texas for every death in Texas. Must be filed w/ the local registrar in the district where death occurred/body was found. (HSC 193.003a)

5 days to medically certify

Certifier must complete medical certification no later than 5 days after receiving death certificate or provide notification to funeral director, or person acting as such. (HSC 193.005b)





A registered nurse or PA may pronounce death, but may not certify to the cause and manner of death on the DC. Only a licensed physician, medical examiner, or justice of the peace may certify. The person who pronounces death may not necessarily be the same person who certifies the death. (HSC 193.005)

Natural v. Unnatural Death

Unnatural death - Body found and cause of death unknown, death occurred in prison or jail, death occurred within 24 hours of hospital admission (CCP Art. 49.25 Sec. 6(1)), death occurred without medical assistance, physician unable/unwilling to certify COD, deceased under 6 years of age. Disease/condition that initiated events leading to death should be indicated on medical certification. If death from external causes, state the means of death (accident, suicide, or homicide). **(HSC 193.005e)**





BTPs (Burial Transit Permit)

Required to ship or transport body out of state or transport body by common carrier within the state (<u>not</u> needed if within state and not by common carrier). BTP is required for cremation (**HSC 193.008, 25 TAC 181.2, 181.3**). The local registrar, deputy registrar, or authorized officer of district death occurred, or district body was found in issues BTP. The local registrar shall <u>not</u> issue BTP <u>until</u> Certificate of Death is presented as complete as possible.







Pending COD/Investigation

 If lengthy investigation performed (i.e. autopsy/toxicology analysis), death certificate should be filed "Pending Investigation/Cause of Death".

Appropriate certifier should immediately amend death certificate when autopsy/inquest results are received. (HSC 191.028)

 This rule applies to medical examiners and justices of the peace.

r List	Cause Of Death
phic 1	Lethal injection
	Cause Of Death Is Pending
phic 2	Enter the chain of events - diseases, injuries, or complications that directly





Letter of Non-Communicable Disease

Contact local health authority of the county to assist if letter of non-communicable/infectious disease is needed.

 If there is no health department, medical certifier of record can compose the letter.

Source: Texas DSHS VSS Local Registrar Handbook



F-Emailed-Qs

The Unknowns(some)



Fields that can be UNKNOWN/N/A for Record Type IDENTIFIED				
Prefix/First Name/Middle Name/Suffix (Decedent)	TAB(keyboard button) through each field			
For ANY Time of Death Type, Time of death can be	?			
Decedent's Birthplace: State/Country	Click checkbox> Select UNKNOWN			
SSN	Select unknown when starting record/can change in Demo tab 1			
Marital Status	Select UNKNOWN			
Street Address	Type, NOT AVAILABLE			
State/Country	Click checkbox, select UNKNOWN			
City	Type, UNKNOWN			
Inside City Limits	Select, UNKNOWN			
Mother and Father fields (all except last name)	TAB(keyboard button) through each field			
Mother/Father Last Name	Type, NOT AVAILABLE			

Hot Potato, Hot DC!



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Who needs to certify a natural death, and if they don't want to...?

- If the attending physician can't/won't certify the death record, the next option is the medical chief officer of the facility. If no one at the facility is willing/can't certify, the family can contact the primary care physician.
- Ultimately, the funeral home and family can speak to either the JP/ME of the county of death to have the record certified. (Handbook of Death Registration)

Attending Physician Medical Chief Officer at Facility Primary Care Physician

JP/ME

SSN Failed



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Types of SSN system fails

- GENDERFAIL: Please confirm the gender on the birth certificate and with SSA
- MAXATTEMPT: An incorrect SSN was entered 5 times; confirm the SSN card and with SSA
- NAMEFAIL: Please confirm the legal name that was inputted on the record and that it matches what is on the birth certificate; If needed check with SSA
- If you do get these SSN fails, you will need to abandon the record and start a new one.
- Tip: Please make sure there are no variations of names. A single letter can make the SSN fail.

Changing FHs?

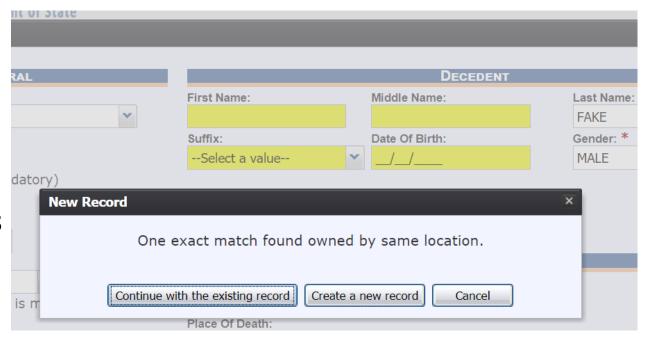


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If ABC Funeral Home relinquished a record because the family decided they wanted to work with XYZ Funeral Home, then the new funeral home can use the existing record.

Start a new record> use the same info inputted by ABC FH> TxEVER will notify XYZ FH that a match was found and can continue the record.

Another option, ABC FH can abandon the record and XYZ can start a new record from scratch.



Death/Fetal Death Work Copy



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Before releasing a death or fetal death record, in order to get a copy/work copy/abstract for your reference/to request a BTP/other, you need to preview the record via verification.

Tip: Always preview and save PDF!



Request/Print BTP



- Path to request BTP for natural death: death tab> locate record in-progress> record tab> print> BTP> Print/Save PDF
- Path to request BTP for un-natural death: death tab> locate record in-progress> record tab> print> BTP> notification that it needs to be requested from the LR> click, OK
 - ❖LR accepts request> Death tab> Function tab> Permit Print Queue> Search for permit> Print/Save PDF

Yellow Fields



If there is a field that is not required and it is yellow, the system will think you are not done/it is unresolved.

Please acknowledge the field using the TAB button on your keyboard. After doing so, the field will turn white.

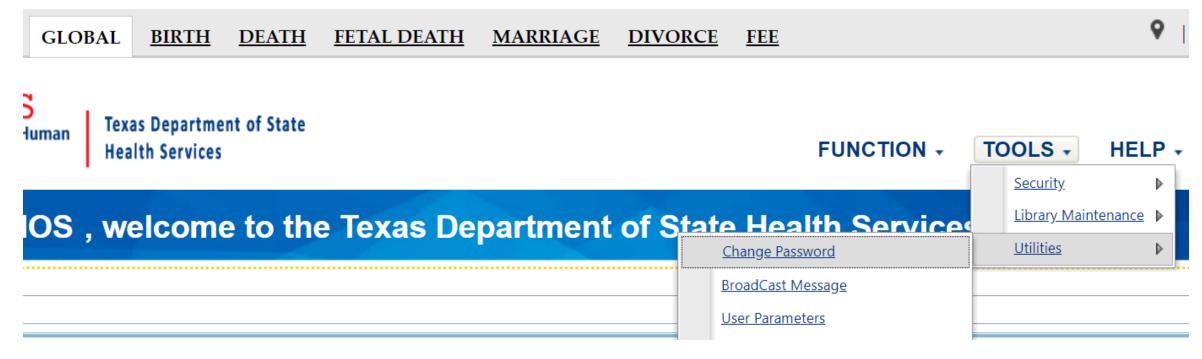
phic 2	Decedent's Legal Name				
phic 3	Prefix:		First Name:		
DITIO 3	Select a value	~			
phic 4	Middle Name:		Last Name:*		
phic 5			FAKE		
	Suffix:				
	Select a value	~			
	DATE OF DEATH				
	Date of Death Type:*		Date of Death:*		

Change Password



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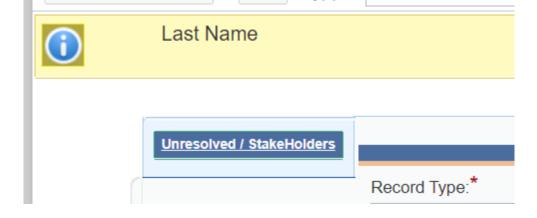
Path: Sign-in with temporary password> Global tab> Tools> Utilities> Change Password (If you are not given the option to change passwords when you sign-in.



That Yellow Box!



The yellow box indicates in which field your cursor is in, NOT if the field has not been resolved. As you move through fields you will see the name of the field at the top of the page. This does not prevent you from moving forward.



Stakeholder List



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To access before and releasing record: search for record> open record> click On UNRESOLVED LIST/STAKEHOLDERS above the demographic tab 1. Click on The record stakeholders bubble.

Shows the timeline of the record: who Created, edited, certified, released the Record, etc.

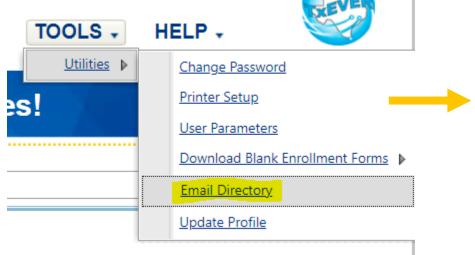
<u>Jnresolved List /</u> <u>StakeHolders</u>	8/17/2020 8:17:07 A	M :	
	0	Unresolved List	Record
User ID	Action	Date	Loc
	Medical designation accepted.	8/18/2020 3:02:18 PM	
	Record certified.	8/18/2020 3:39:09 PM	
	Record de-certified.	8/19/2020 2:45:06 PM	74
	Record updated.	8/19/2020 2:47:15 PM	24
74047	Record certified.	8/19/2020 2:47:41 PM	==
	Record verified.	8/20/2020 11:51:30 AM	94
المحمد	Record released from demograph	8/20/2020 11:51:41 AM	
11-	Record accepted from local accept	8/20/2020 1:34:16 PM	
	Local Batch Printed.	8/20/2020 4:23:42 PM	RE
S/IS	State batch print completed.	8/26/2020 11:39:09 AM	TE

Who do I call/email?!



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Search for the medical certifiers/other funeral homes/other users if you need to contact them.



		EMAIL DIRECTORY SEARCH			Н
Recipier	nt Details				
First Nar	ne:	Middle Na	ame:		Last N
Email Ad	ddress:				
Location	n Details				
Location	Type: Medical Office	▼ Location I	Name:		Subsc
Selec	et all				
Select	Location Name	User ID	User Type	Email Address	
	The second of th		Local Admin		
		A	User		- MARCHAN
	1960 FAMILY PRACTICE PA	ALI UNGG	User	45-1-	
	1000 EARMIN DRACTICE DA	DI ANDINACIONI	Heor	D	



Health Services

Extraordinary Death Scenarios



Death Abroad & Funeral in Texas

Please have the family consult with the US Embassy in the country of death for the proper documents needed for transportation and burial/cremation.

Visit:

https://travel.state.gov/content/ travel/en/internationaltravel/while-abroad/deathabroad1.html





Burial/Cremation Abroad

- To ship a body from Texas to Mexico, a BTP, a certified copy of the Texas Certificate of Death and an Apostille from the Texas Secretary of State's Office is generally required. The funeral director/person acting as such may need to have death certificate and Apostille translated to Spanish.
- To ship the body from Texas to a country other than Mexico, check with consulate of country for specific requirements. If body removed from Texas, BTP must be obtained.
- The Report of Death does <u>not</u> take the place of the BTP for cremation. Body may <u>not</u> be cremated until 48 hours after death as indicated on Certification of Death (unless death due to Asiatic cholera, bubonic plague, typhus fever, or small pox). The time requirement must be waived in writing by the medical examiner or justice of peace. The Body may <u>not</u> be cremated until medical examiner or justice of peace has signed stating autopsy was performed or autopsy isn't necessary. (Handbook of Death Registration)







Texas HSC 193.007:

(a)To file record of death that occurred in this state but was not registered within 1 year of the date of death, a person shall submit record of death to **county probate court** in county where death occurred.





- (1) physician last in attendance of decedent or funeral director who buried body; or
- (2) if affidavit of physician or funeral director cannot be obtained
 - (A) any person who was acquainted w/ facts surrounding death when death occurred; and
 - (B) another person acquainted w/ facts surrounding death but who is not related to decedent by consanguinity or affinity





(e) For each application under this section, the court shall collect \$1 fee. The court retains 50 cents of fee & remaining 50 cents is allocated to clerk of court for recording certificate.

(f) Not later than 7th day after date on which certificate is accepted & ordered filed by court under this section, the clerk of the court shall forward to vital statistics unit:

- (1)the certificate; and
- (2) an order from the court that the state registrar accept certificate.



Delayed Death in-anutshell...

- Any death not filed within one year of the date of death must be manually filed delayed.
- The VS-128 Court-Ordered Delay of Death form must be used. The VS-128 must be filed through the probate court of the county where the death occurred. The VS-128 requires an affidavit from the physician or funeral director. The VS-128 must be duplicated by the county probate court. Should the County Probate Court not have the VS-128 in stock, they or the local registrar can order the VS-128 form from the state via the VS-100 form.
- The VS-128 cannot be handed to the family. The family has to get the VS-128 through the probate court. Once the family/attorney get the VS-128, complete it and add supporting documents and the judge signs, both copies of the VS-128 should be given to the county clerk/local registrar to file the death. The Local registrar will file one and forward the other to VSS.



Health Services

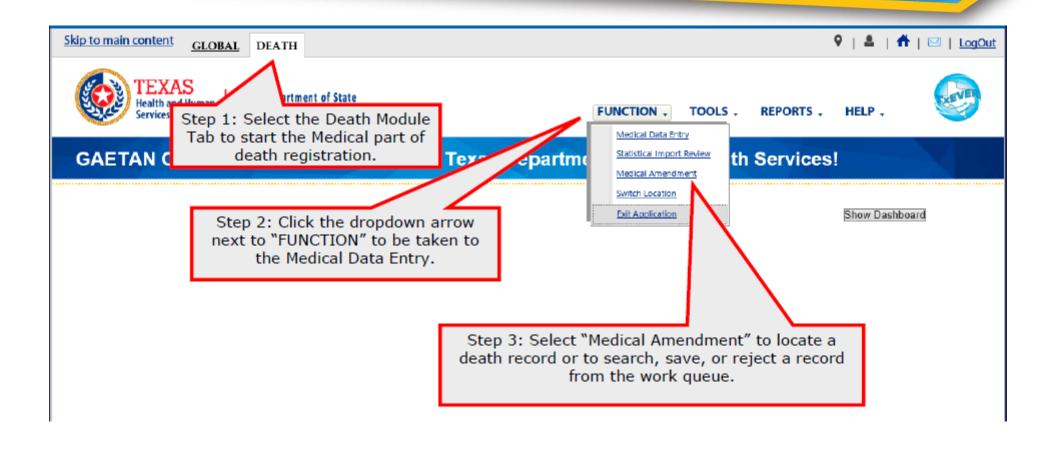
Forms of Amendments

Medical Amendments

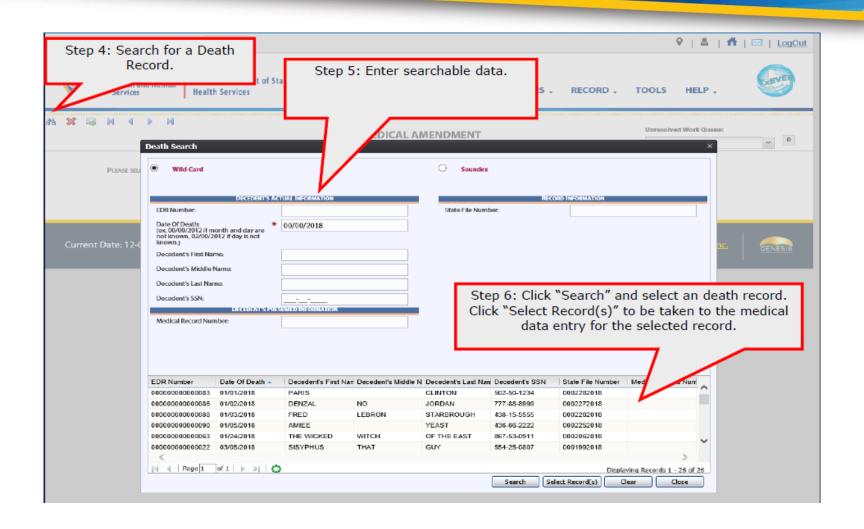


- Please check the record if it has already been filed
- If already filed with the state, proceed with a medical amendment on TxEVER; only doable for records done using TxEVER(exceptions may apply)
- Quick steps: Death tab> functions> process medical amendment> search for record> locate section of record to change> click on the wrench icon> make change> click on save at bottom> click on green checkmark to finalize (guides: https://dshs.texas.gov/vs/field/TxEVER/guides.aspx)
- Medical amendments are processed quickly!
- **If a medical amendment is in progress, a demographic amendment can't be done at the same time.**

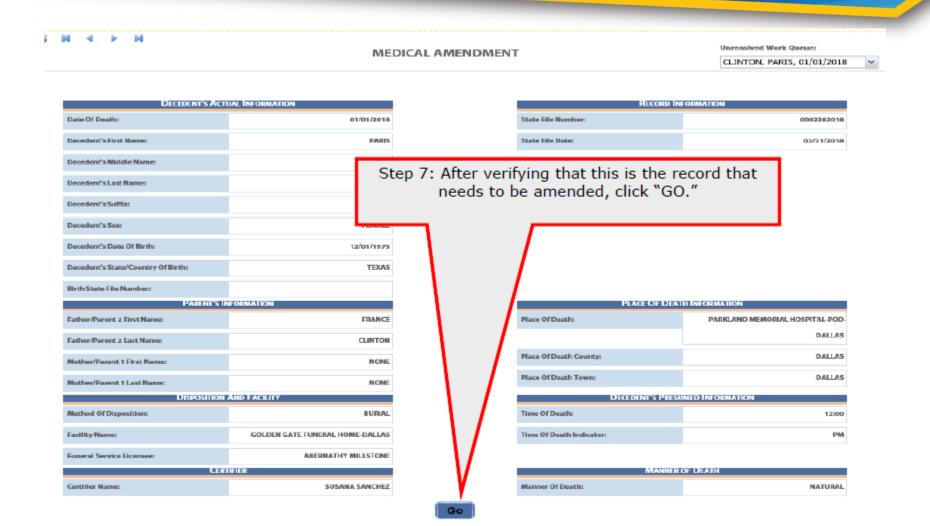








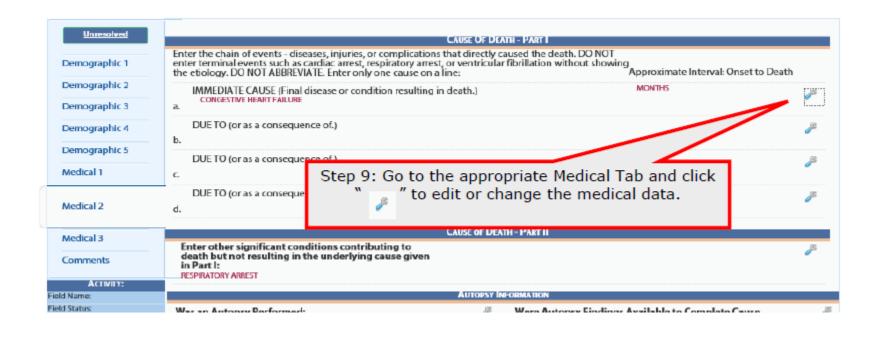




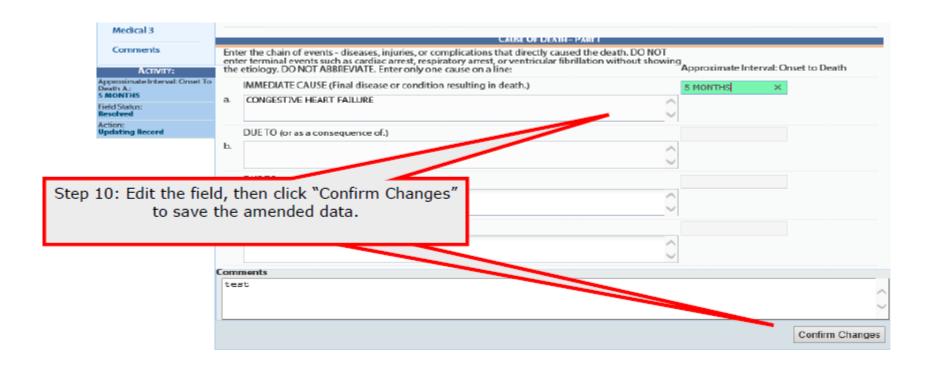














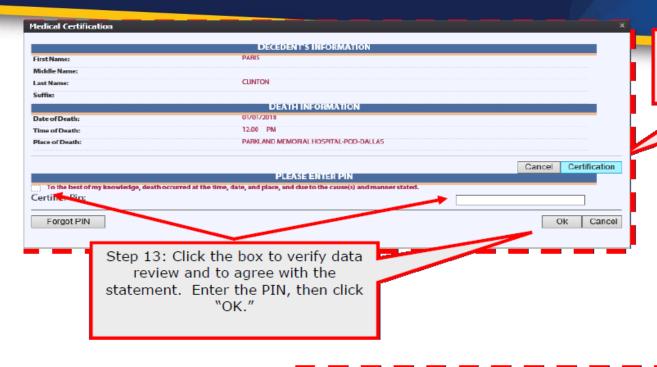


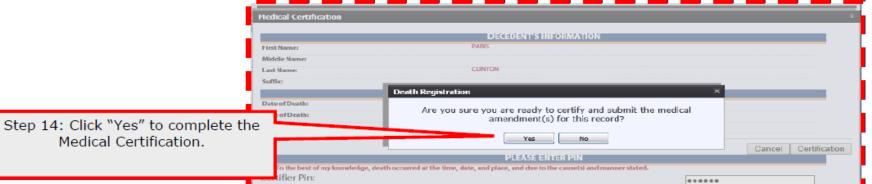
How to Medically Amend DC



Texas Department of State Health Services

Step 12: After Previewing the record, Click "Certification" to expand the section.

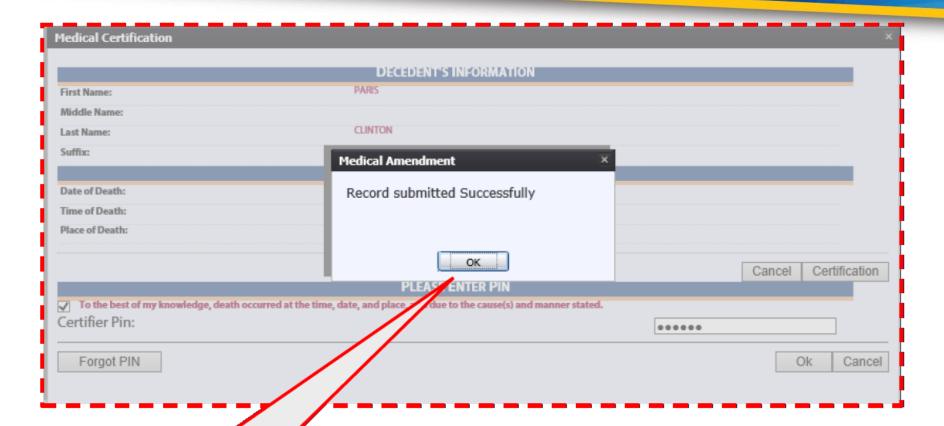




How to Medically Amend DC



Texas Department of State Health Services



Step 15: Click "OK" to complete the submission process.

Demographic Amendments



Texas Department of State Health Services

- Use paper application VS-172 for changes needed on non-medical information on death record
- Review the application thoroughly
- Make sure all supporting documents are submitted, along with the proper forms of identification
- Processing times can be seen on our website (<u>https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/processing/</u>)
- **If a demographic amendment is in progress, a medical amendment cannot be done at the same time.**
- If a status on the amendment is needed, please have the person who submitted the application call VS or submit status request via form.

(https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/forms/mailorderstatus.aspx)



Who Can Apply for a Correction?

- · The funeral director named on the death certificate.
- The informant named on the death certificate.
- The surviving spouse or surviving parent named on the death certificate.
- · Medical certifier, if a fetal death certificate.

WHEN SENDING IN THE APPLICATION, PLEASE INCLUDE A PHOTOCOPY OF VALID PHOTO ID FOR THE PERSON SIGNING SECTION 5.

How Do I Make a Correction?

- · Complete and sign this application. See pages 3 and 4.
- Submit the appropriate documentation. See page 2.
- Submit the appropriate fees. See fee schedule below.

Where Do I Mail the Application?

Regular Mailing Instructions:

Please submit your application, supporting documents (if required) and fees to:

DSHS - Vital Statistics Section, P.O. Box 12040, Austin, TX 78711-2040.

Expedited Service Mailing Instructions:

The order must be sent to the Vital Statistics Section via an **overnight mail service such as: FedEx, Lone Star, or UPS.**

Please submit your application, supporting documents (if required) and fees to:

DSHS-Vital Statistics Section, MC 2096, 1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756.

Fees: How much must I submit?

	Fee Schedule	Fee (\$)		Qty (#)		Total (\$)	
	Filing Fees:						
•	Correction to Death Certificate	\$15.00			=	\$15.00	
	All orders are returned free of charge by USPS regular mail. For urgent requests, orders may be EXPEDITED by sending the order through an overnight mail service, such as: FEDEX, LoneStar, or UPS AND selecting one of the overnight return shipping methods below.						
	Expedite Overnight Mail (for shipping within USA) \$8 for Overnight Mail + \$5 for Expedited processing	\$13.00			=		
	USPS Express Mail (for shipping overnight to PO Box ONLY) \$22.95 for Overnight Mail + \$5 for Expedited processing	\$27.95					
	Priority Mail (for shipping to Overseas Military Address ONLY) \$4.95 for Overnight Mail + \$5 for Expedited processing	\$9.95			II		
	Death Certificate(s):						
	Certified Corrected Death Certificate – 1st Copy	\$20.00	Х	1	=		
	Certified Corrected Death Certificate – Additional Copies	\$3.00	Х				
	Grand Total						



What type of correction are you requesting?

Box # 1: Document Checklist						
I want to	You will need <u>one</u> of the supporting documents shown in Box # 2 below					
□ Correct decedent's name	No documentation required if applicant is the					
	Informant or Funeral Director. If not, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8					
☐ Add one AKA to the registrant's name that is a similar name	No documentation required if applicant is the					
and one registrates have that is a similar harre	Informant or Funeral Director. If not, 9					
□ Correct place of death	7 or 8					
☐ Correct date of birth and/or age of decedent	No documentation required if applicant is the Informant or Funeral Director. If not, 2, 5, or 9					
□ Correct decedent's sex	No documentation required if applicant is the Informant or Funeral Director. If not, 5 or 9					
□ Correct birth place of decedent	No documentation required if applicant is the Informant or Funeral Director. If not, 2, 4, 5 or 9					
☐ Correct social security number of decedent	No documentation required if applicant is the Informant or Funeral Director. If not, 3					
☐ Correct marital status of decedent	If applicant is not the Informant, then 9. If					
(Informant must sign and submit application)	changing status to married, must add name of surviving spouse					
☐ Correct surviving spouse's name	No documentation required to correct					
(Informant or Funeral Director must sign and submit application)	misspellings, if applicant is the Informant or					
Correct Informant's information	Funeral Director. If correction is more					
(Informant or Funeral Director must sign and submit application)	significant than the spelling, 9					
☐ Correct decedent's parent's first, middle or last name	No documentation required if applicant is the Informant or Funeral Director. If not, 2, 5, or 9					
☐ Correct decedent's residence street address	No documentation required.					
(Informant or Funeral Director must sign and submit application)						
☐ Correct method or place of disposition						
(Funeral Director must sign and submit application)						
□ Correct Name of Funeral Facility	9					
(Funeral Director must sign and submit application)						
□ Correct Medical Information	10					
(Date of death and information at or below "Certified" line-items						
26-41)						
□ Correct Medical Information – Fetal death certificate	No documentation required.					
(Medical certifier must sign and submit application)						

Suggested Supporting Documents:

Documents must be <u>original certified copies</u> (no photocopies or notarized copies) on official letterhead or with an original certification or seal unless otherwise specified below. Foreign documents, including notaries, must have an apostille or legalization. **All supporting documents must match the requested correction(s) exactly and cannot be altered.**

Box # 2: Supporting Documents

- 1 Funeral home contract or worksheet
- 2 Baptismal certificate Must be within first 5 years of birth
- 3 Social security card of deceased Photocopy accepted
- 4 Armed forces discharge papers (form DD 214) Photocopy accepted
- 5 Birth certificate of deceased
- 6 Divorce record (limited use)
- 7 Medical records
- 8 Medical Examiner/Justice of the Peace, Police or EMS Reports
- 9 A certified copy of a court order affecting information shown on the death certificate.
- 10 Medical amendment filed by the medical certifier



Health Services

Fetal Death Registration

Important Notes about Fetal Death Registration

There are 3 ways a record can be registered

Funeral Home Starts Record Medical Certification

Funeral Home Releases

Hospital Starts Record Medical Certification

Funeral Home Releases

Hospital Starts Record Medical Certification Hospital Releases Record

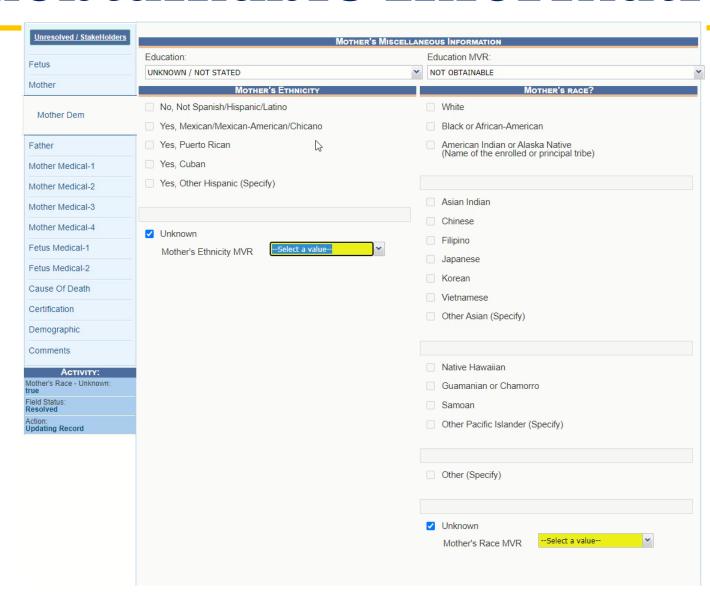




Important Notes about Fetal Death Registration

- To print/save a PDF of the work copy of the record, it needs to be previewed BEFORE verification and releasing the record
- The funeral home is ONLY responsible for the demographic tab
- The pink fetal death forms are still being accepted by the local registrar offices
- File electronically via TxEVER to quickly have the record filed for the family
- If medical certifiers do not have fetal death access, they need to email the TxEVER help-desk the following info:
 - 1. Full Legal Name
 - 2. Email address
 - 3. Name and address of place of delivery
 - 4. Medical License #

Unobtainable Information





Unobtainable Information



Unresolved / StakeHolders							
omesoived / StakeHolders	Father's Legal Name						
Fetus	Title Preference	First Name:					
- 5145	FATHER						
Mother	Middle Name:	Last Name:					
✓ Mother Dem							
	Suffix:						
Father	Select a value						
	Father's Information						
Mother Medical-1	Date of birth:	Age:					
Mother Medical-2							
Mother Medical-3	Birth place (State in US, or Country if not US):						
- 1111 1 71 11	Select a value						
Mother Medical-4							
Fetus Medical-1							
Fetus Medical-2		Previous Save Next					

TEXAS Health and Human Services Texas Department of State Health Services

Unobtainable Information

Tips

- Families/Funeral Homes, call the doctor/place of delivery to ask If they are needing additional information for the record.
- FHs, before starting the record, verify if the doctor has fetal death access
- If the doctor calls the FH stating they can't finish the record because They don't have all the information have a back-up of information
- On many of the fields it is possible to use NOT AVAILABLE/NOT OBTAINABLE/?,etc.; Data is important though!
- Most frequently skipped tabs by medical certifiers: Mother Dem, Father, Mother Medical 1-3



Health Services

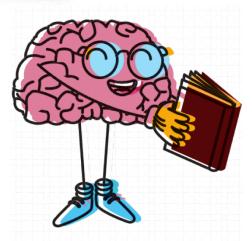
Resources

Linking you to knowledge



Texas Department of State Health Services

- Landing Page: https://dshs.texas.gov/txever/
- TxEVER Guides: https://dshs.texas.gov/vs/field/TxEVER/quides.aspx
- TxEVER Videos: https://dshs.texas.gov/vs/field/TxEVER/eVideos.aspx
- FAQs: https://dshs.texas.gov/vs/field/TxEVER/FAQs.aspx
- Texas Medical Board: http://www.tmb.state.tx.us/
- TX DSHS Death Registration Handbook: <u>https://dshs.texas.gov/vs/field/docs/Handbook-on-Death-Registration.pdf</u>



- CDC Funeral Director's Handbook: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/misc/hb fun.pdf
- DSHS VS Forms: https://dshs.texas.gov/vs/forms.aspx
- DSHS VS Forms for Partners(all of you!): <u>https://dshs.texas.gov/vs/forms.aspx#partners</u>
- Texas VS Statutes HSC for Death: <u>https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.193.htm</u>
- Texas VS Statutes TAC for Death: https://tinyurl.com/vstac2020



Texas Department of State Health Services

Thank you!

<u>leslie.olmos1@dshs.texas.gov</u> <u>zoe.wright@dshs.texas.gov</u>